

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 202322

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DRAFTED BY CU/EE:AHOOKS:DH

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TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OEXC, CZ

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY ON EXCHANGES

REF: A) STATE 298482; B) PRAGUE 2300; C) STATE 194074

1. FIRST SECRETARY JOZEF JAROSEK OF CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY  
CALLED ON CU/EE DIRECTOR AUGUST 13 TO DISCUSS POS-  
SIBILITIES FOR EXPANDING EDUCATION AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES  
WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA. JAROSEK READILY AGREED THAT WE SHOULD  
NOT WAIT FOR THE SIGNING OF THE EXCHANGE AGREEMENT CUR-  
RENTLY BEING NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE US AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA  
BEFORE ENLARGING CURRENT PROGRAMS AND INITIATING NEW ONES.

2. CU/EE DIRECTOR RICHMOND BRIEFED JAROSEK ON THE RANGE OF  
EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, BOTH OFFICIAL AND PRIVATELY-SPONSORED,  
WHICH THE US HAS WITH OTHER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.  
RICHMOND PROPOSED WE START WITH ABOUT TEN PEOPLE ON INDIVIDUAL  
PROGRAMS IN A VARIETY OF FIELDS BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER TO ALLOW CZECHS TO RE-ESTABLISH CONTACTS IN THE US. HE ALSO SAID WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE CZECH LECTURERS IN THE US AND MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF  
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PAGE 02 STATE 202322

VIRGINIA REQUEST (REFTEL C) OTHER PROGRAMS DISCUSSED

INCLUDED AMSPECS AND DIRECT EXCHANGES BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES.  
WE REMINDED JAROSEK OF UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PROPOSAL TO  
BRNO WHICH WENT UNANSWERED.

3. JAROSEK NOTED THE REDUCED SCOPE OF THE IREX PROGRAM FROM 100 MAN-MONTHS LAST YEAR TO 50 THIS YEAR AND REFERRED TO THE FACT THAT AT ONE TIME THERE WERE ABOUT 500-600 CZECHS ON VARIOUS ACADEMIC/RESEARCH PROGRAMS IN THE US. WE REPLIED BY NOTING INCREASED COSTS OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS, INCREASED INTEREST IN ALL EE COUNTRIES IN SUCH EXCHANGES, AND LIMITED FUNDING ON US SIDE. WE AGAIN STRESSED PRIVATE NATURE OF IREX PROGRAM. JAROSEK ACCEPTED OUR SUGGESTION ON THE IVP PROGRAM AS THE BEST WAY TO GET THINGS MOVING AND, IN THIS REGARD, SAID HE WOULD REQUEST THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE TO PREPARE A LIST OF NAMES BOTH IN THE HUMANITIES AND HARD SCIENCES THAT WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE US.

4. COMMENT: JAROSEK WAS RETICENT THROUGHOUT MEETING AND SEEMED MORE INTERESTED IN EXPLORING WHAT WE HAVE IN MIND

THAN IN REVEALING CZECH THOUGHTS. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE, IF NOT PROBABLE, THAT JAROSEK HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRAGUE ON WHAT CZECH POSITION ON PRE-AGREEMENT EXCHANGES MIGHT BE. WE STRESSED OUR INTEREST IN HAVING A PROGRAM BALANCED IN ALL CATEGORIES BETWEEN HARD SCIENCES AND

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES. JAROSEK APPEARED TO UNDERSTAND AND THIS MAY BE WHY HE MENTIONED MINISTRY OF CULTURE, ALTHOUGH HIS MAIN INTEREST HERE IS SCIENCE. WHILE WE ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN EXCHANGES WITH THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, WE SUGGEST EMBASSY EXPLAIN TO CZECHS THAT THE IV PROGRAM IS OPEN TO PEOPLE IN ALL FIELDS OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AND NOT LIMITED TO CULTURE. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO PREPARE LIST OF SUBJECTS OF PRIORITY INTEREST, AND SHOULD SEEK AGREEMENT ON FIELDS OF INTEREST AS WELL AS INDIVIDUAL NOMINATIONS. WE ARE PREPARED TO START RECEIVING INDIVIDUAL IVS IN NOVEMBER. FURTHER DETAILS ON CU PROGRAMS POUCHED EMBASSY TODAY,  
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PAGE 03 STATE 202322

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